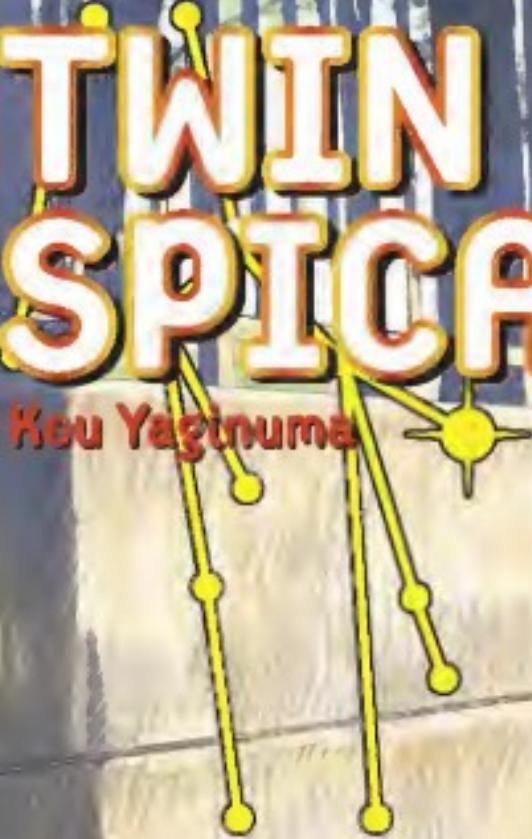


# TWIN SPICA

Kou Yaginuma



11



# TWIN SPICA

11



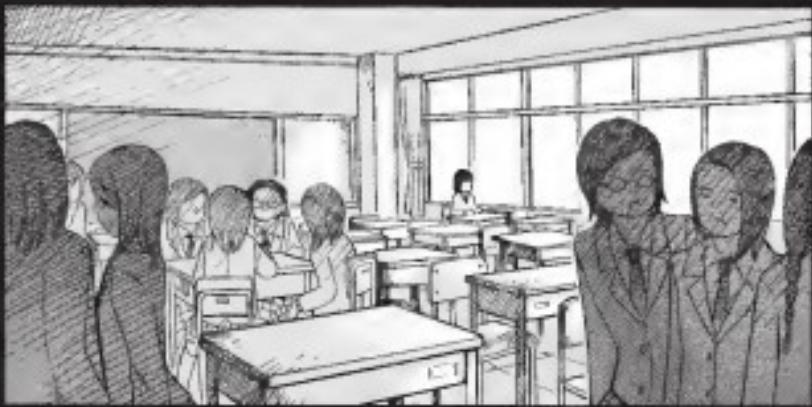
Kou Yaginuma



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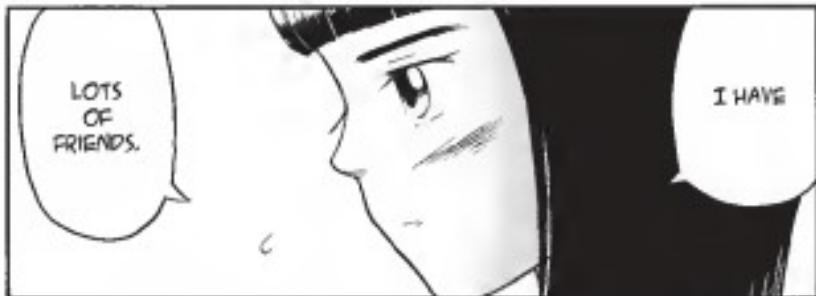




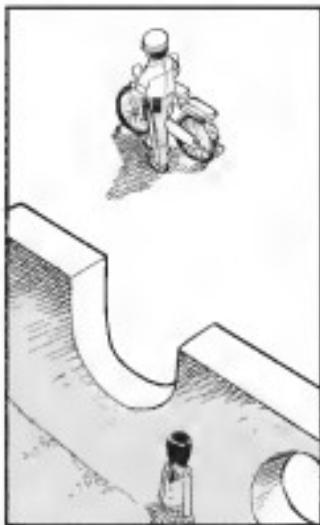
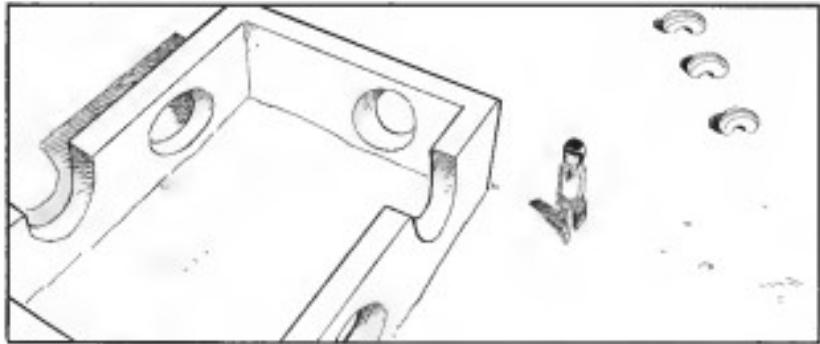
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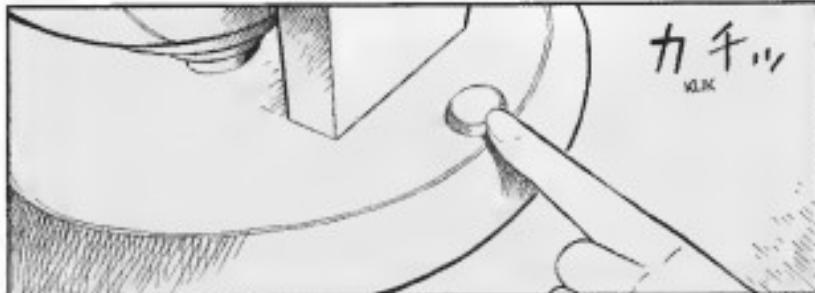
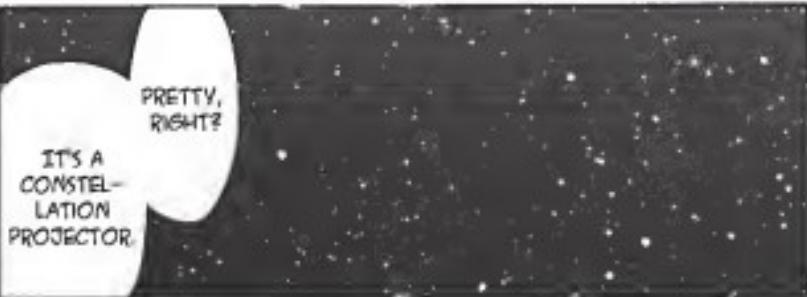


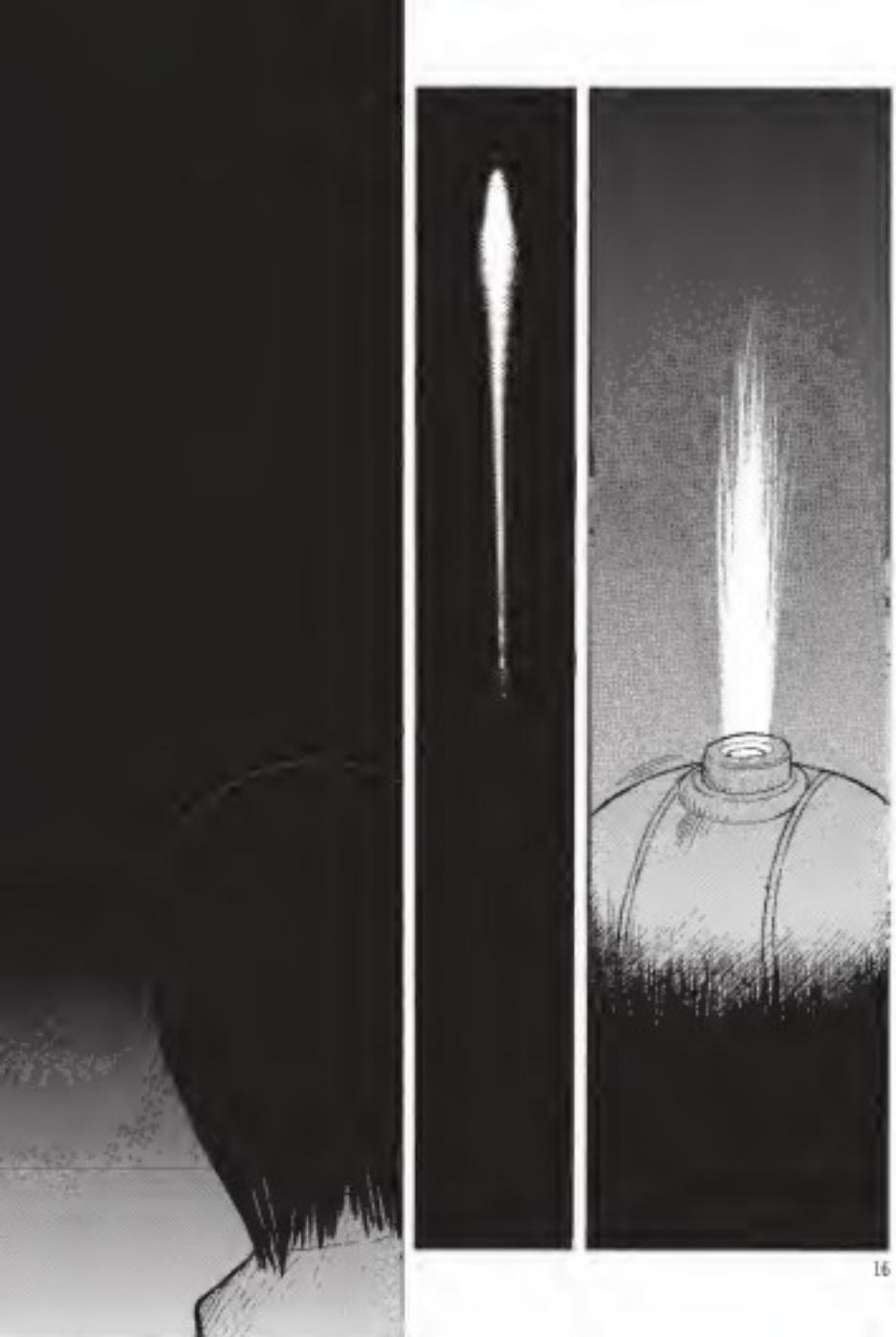




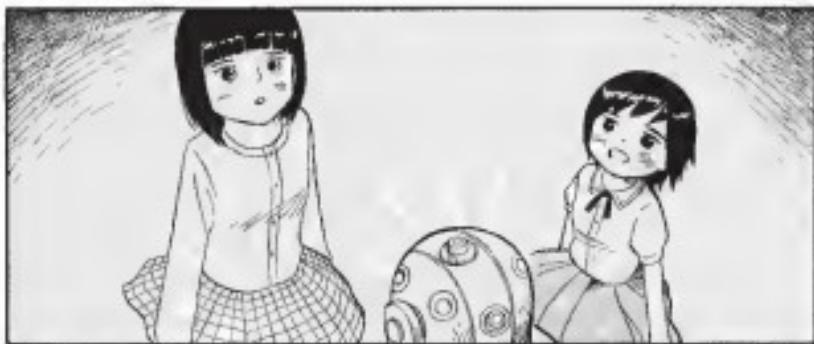




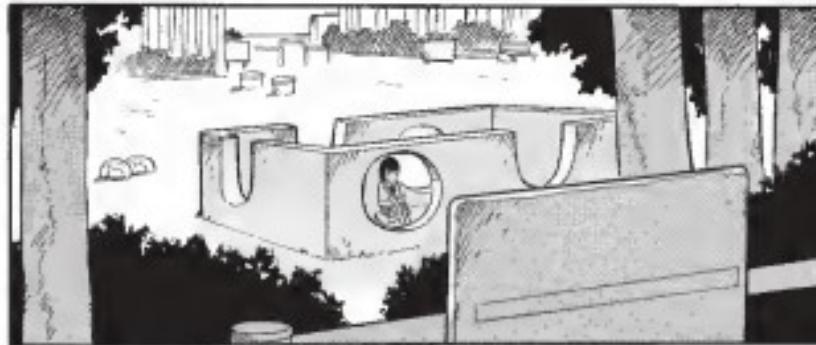






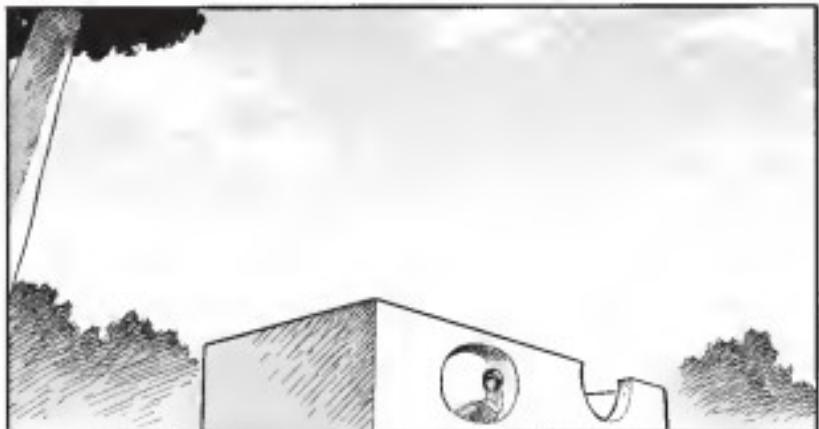


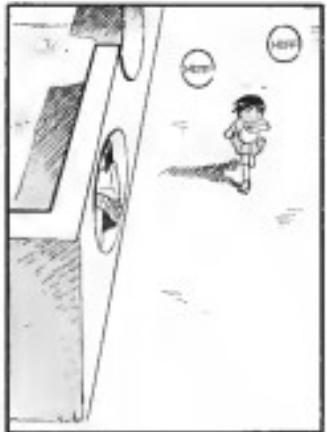


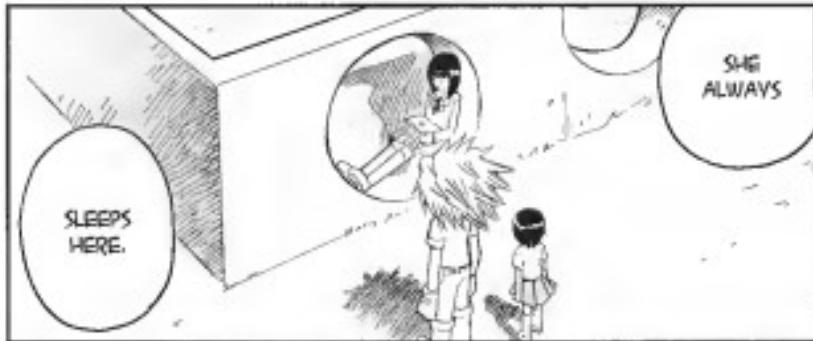






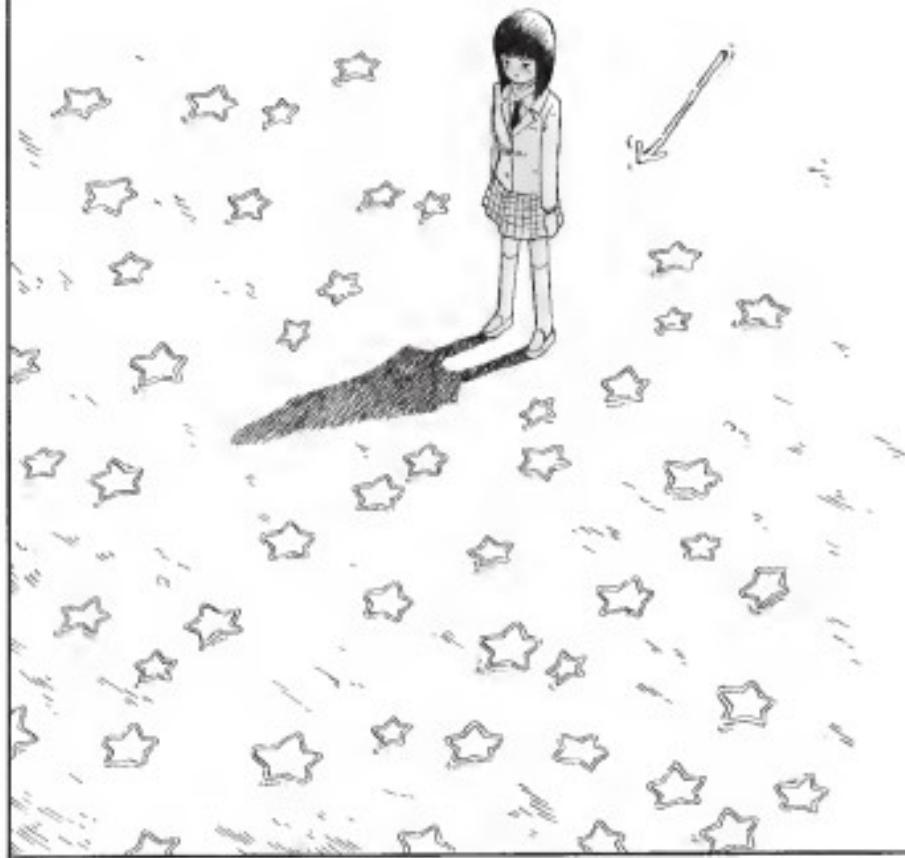




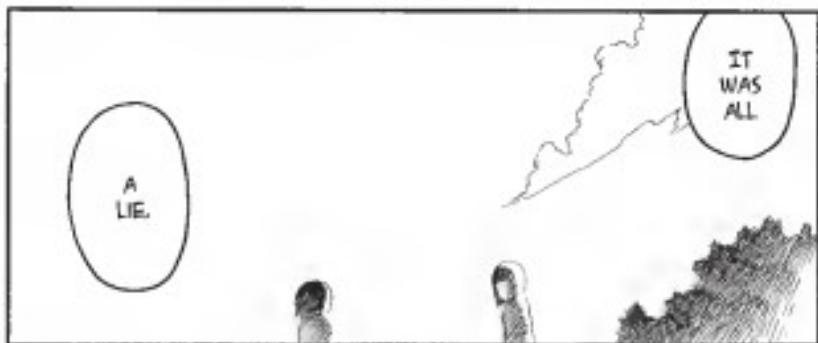
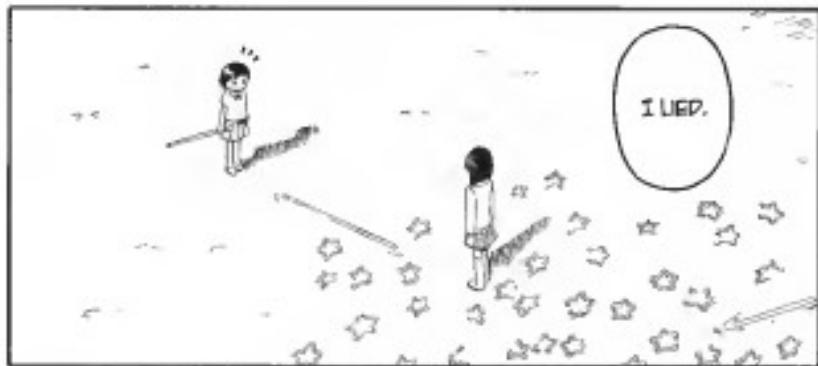




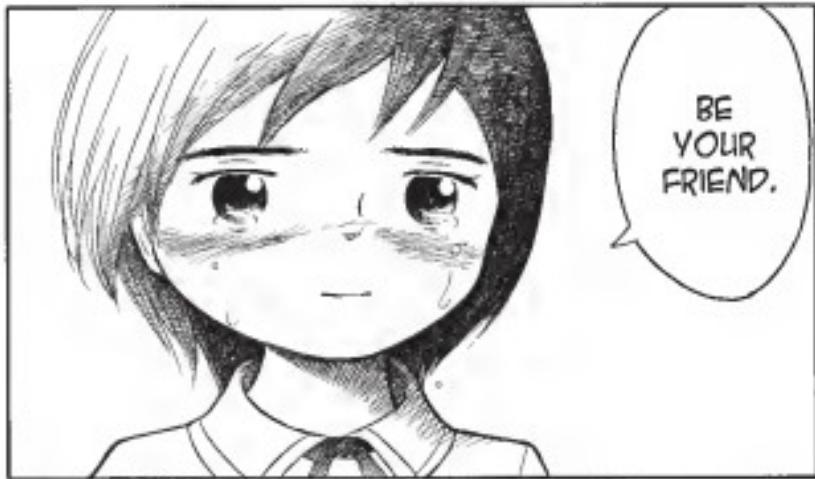


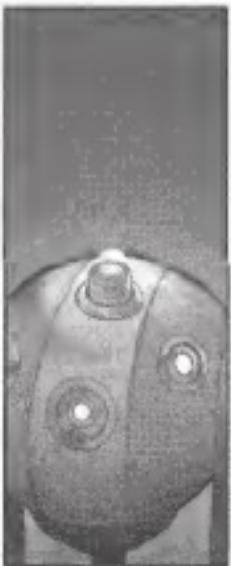
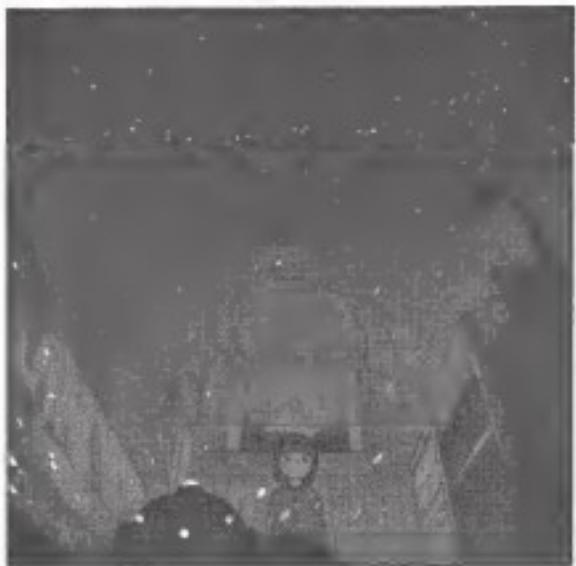












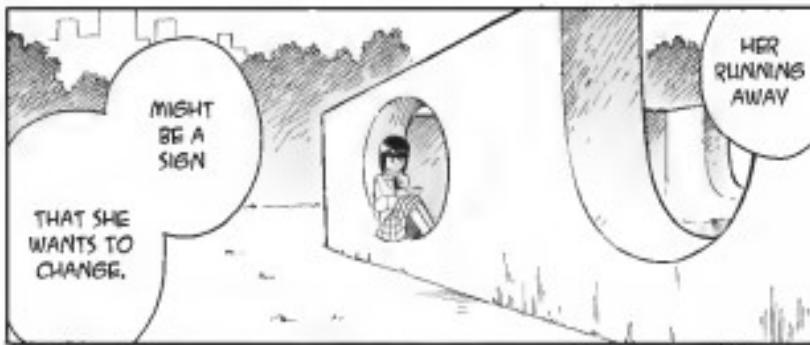
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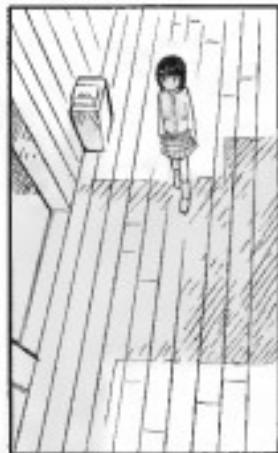


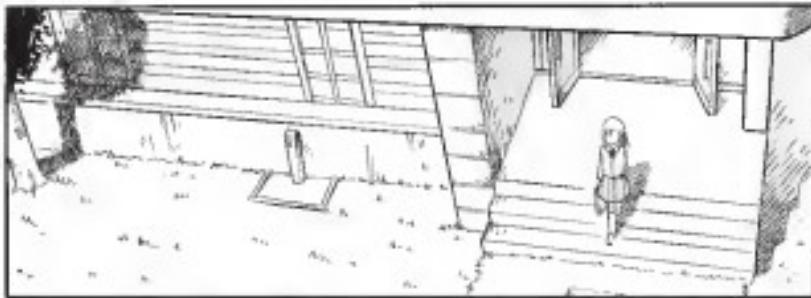














YOU CAN TELL  
THE DISTANCE  
TO STARS  
DUE TO  
PARALLAX.

WHILE  
FARAWAY  
BUILDINGS  
SEEM TO  
STAND STILL.

ANYTHING  
CLOSE TO  
THE CAR  
FLIES PAST

IT'S LIKE  
WHEN YOU  
LOOK AT THE  
SCENERY  
FROM THE  
WINDOW OF  
A MOVING  
CAR.

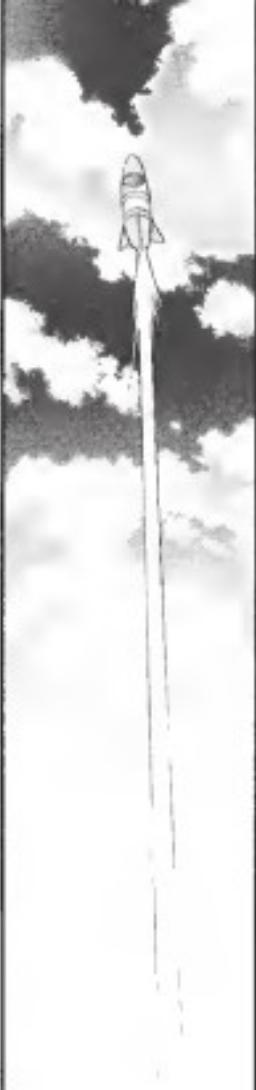
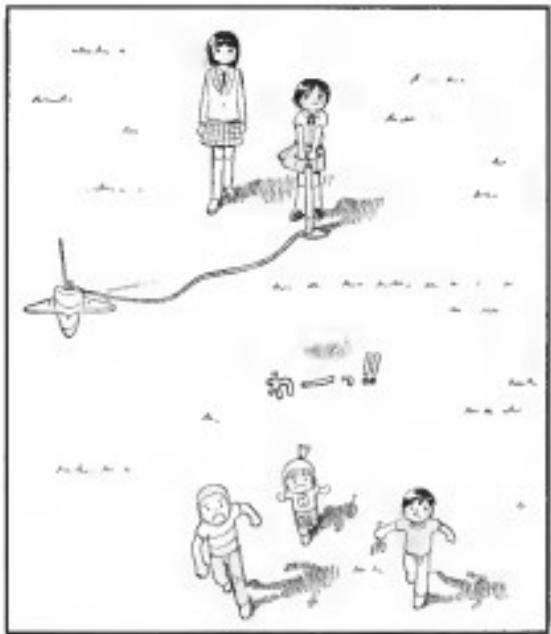
ARE FOUR  
LIGHT-YEARS  
AWAY.

EVEN  
THE  
STARS  
CLOSEST  
PROXIMA TO  
AND EARTH,  
ALPHA  
CENTAURI,

YOU CAN  
MEASURE  
DISTANCE  
BASED ON  
THAT  
MOVEMENT.

CLOSER  
STARS  
MOVE  
FASTER,  
STILL.



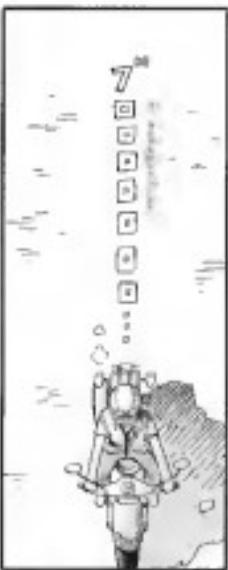




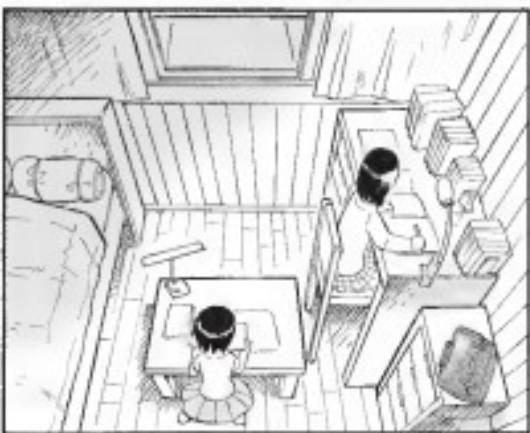














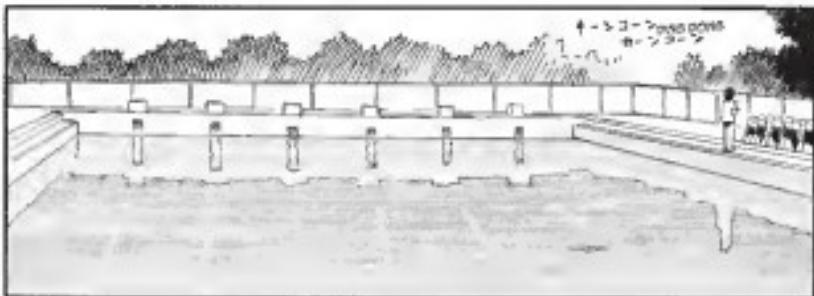










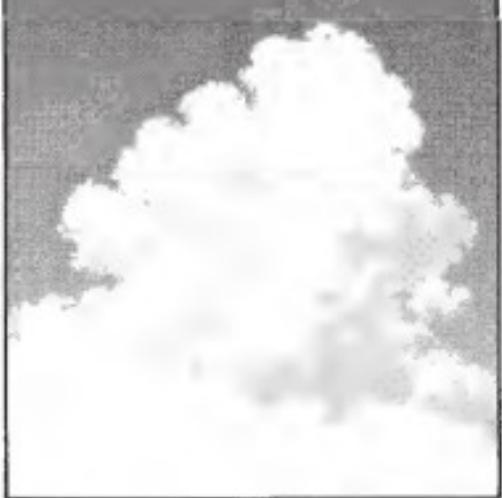


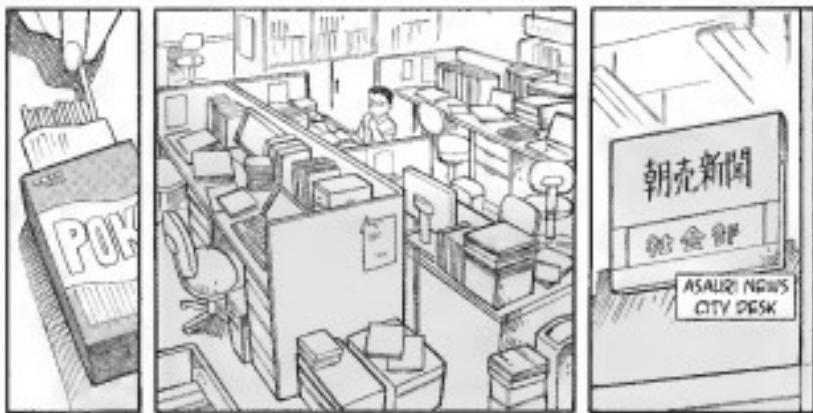
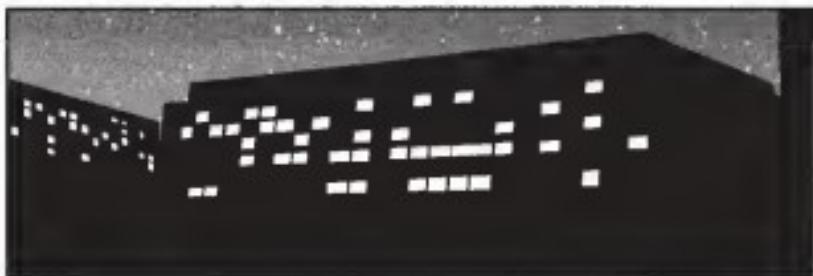








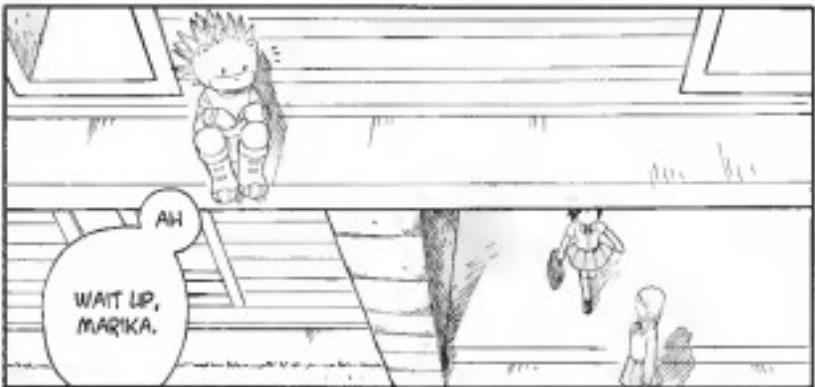






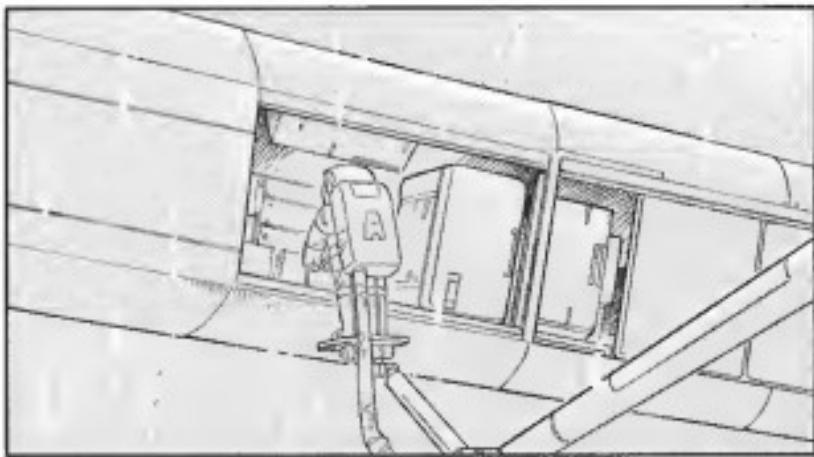
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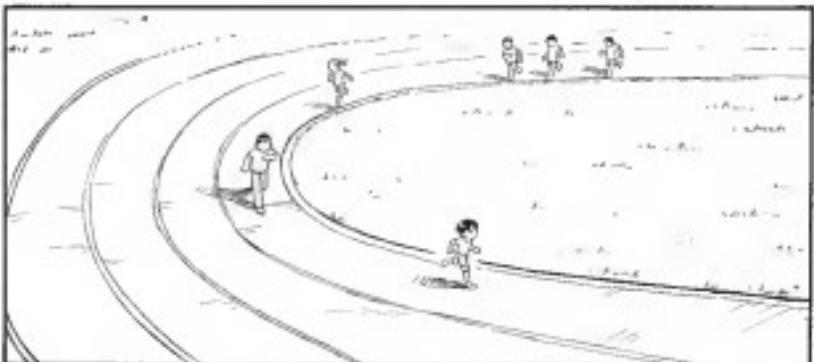
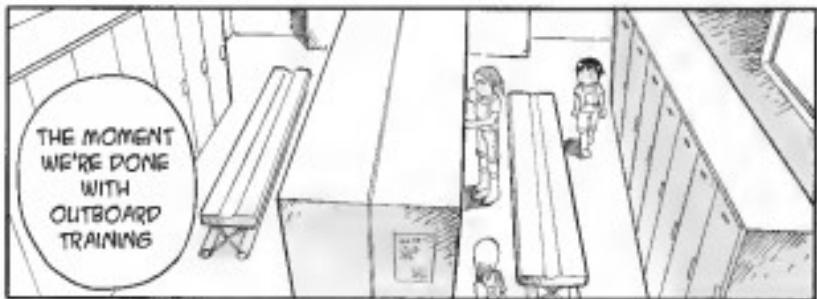








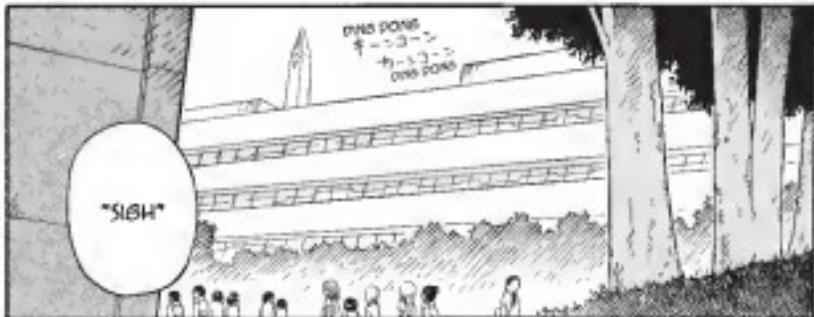
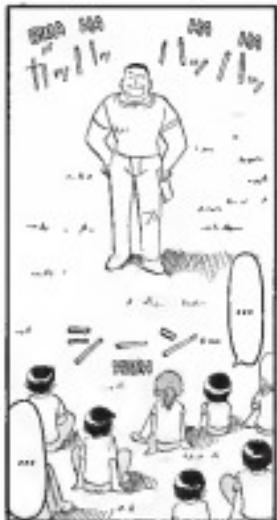


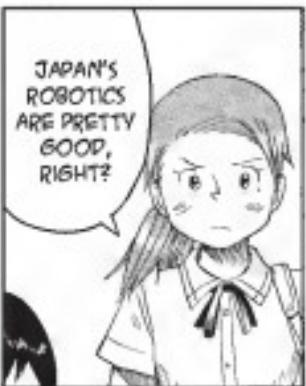




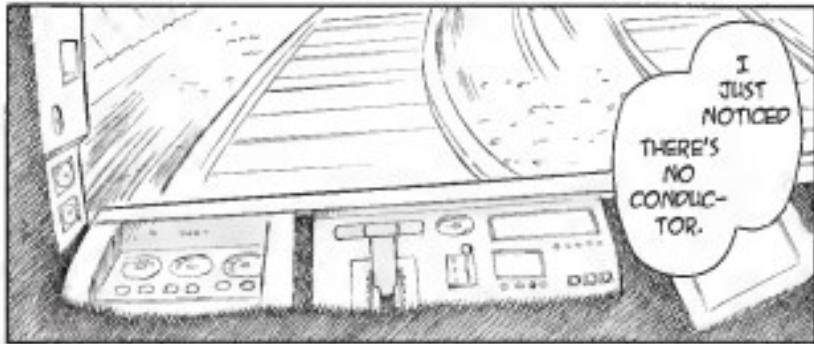






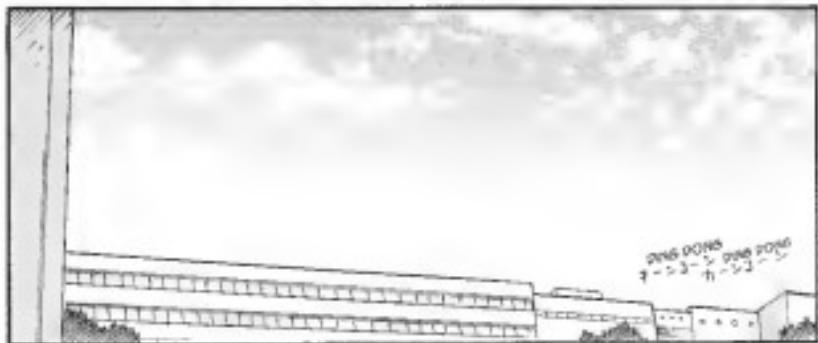


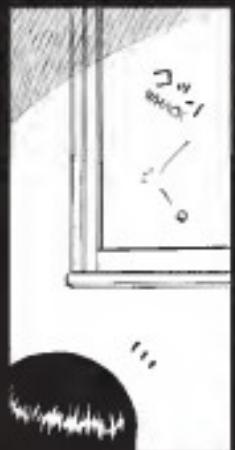
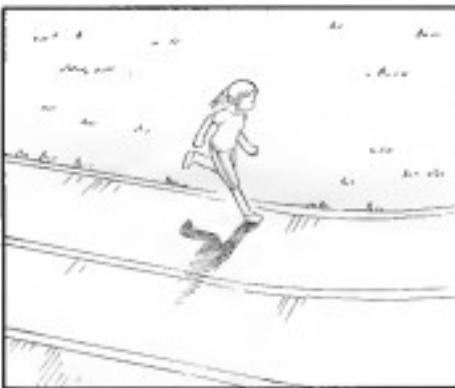






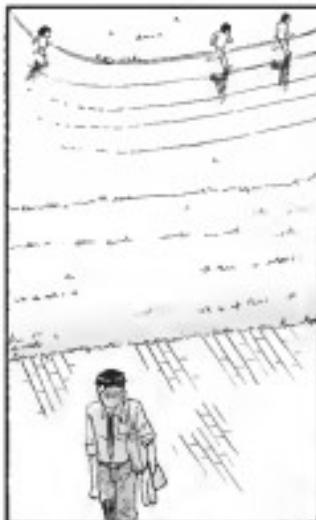






















THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
ONLY  
HUMANS  
CAN DO.

MR. LION  
SAID



WHAT  
WOULD  
IT BE  
?

IF THERE'S  
SOMETHING  
ONLY  
I COULD  
DO,

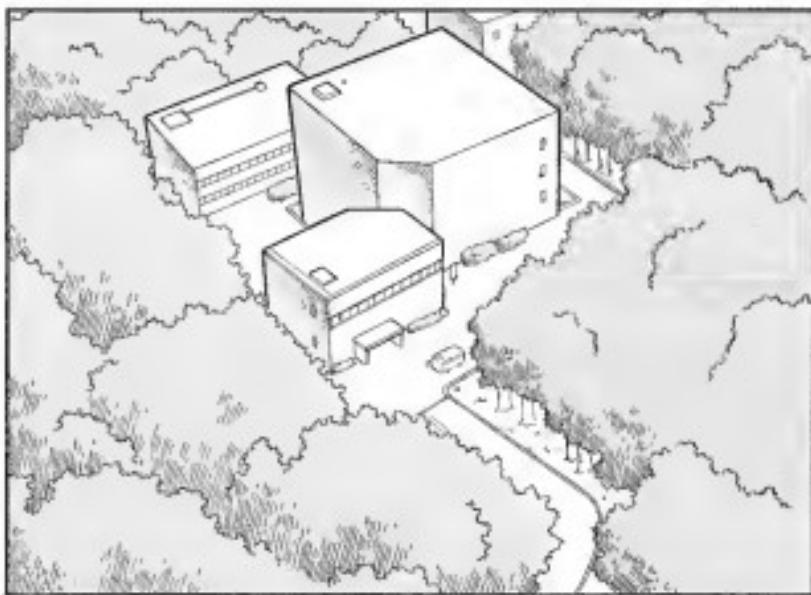


ORION  
#33,  
COMPLETE.



# MISSION:56



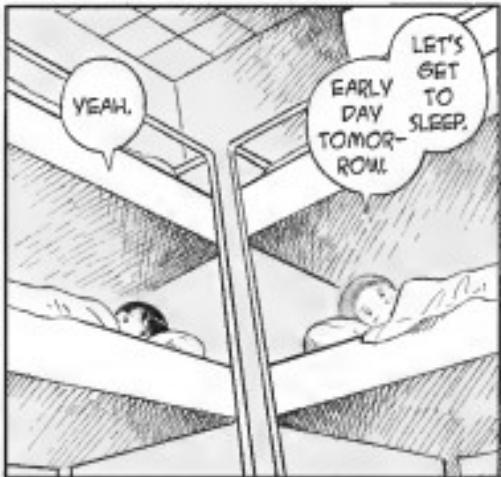


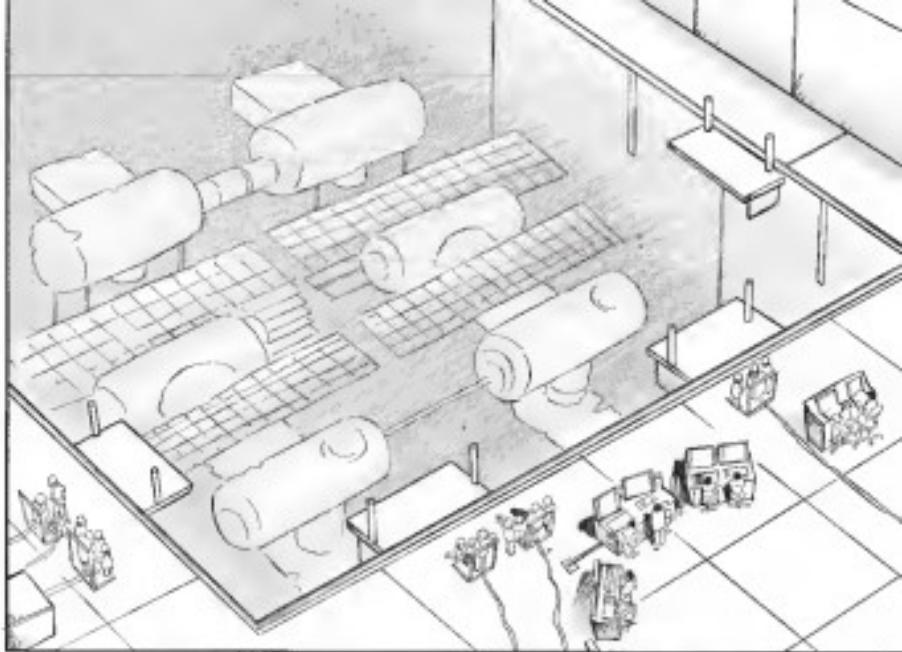


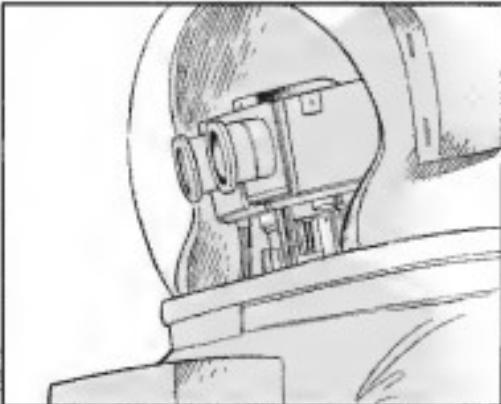
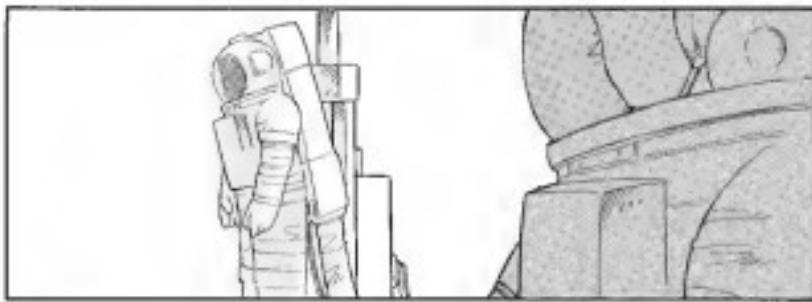




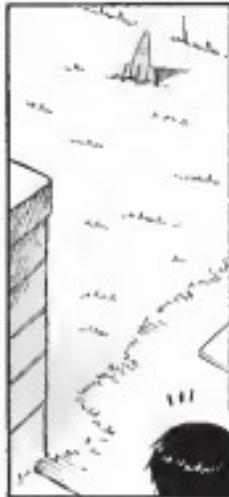








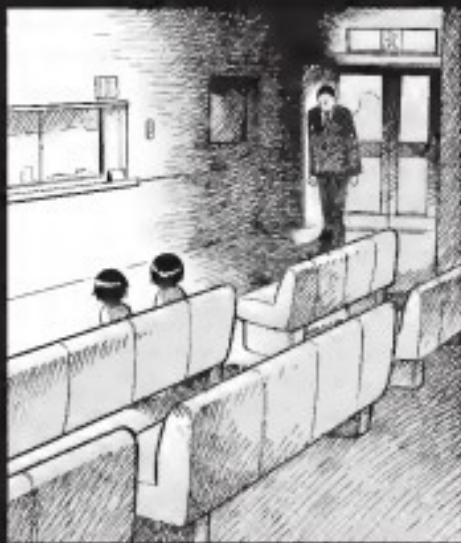


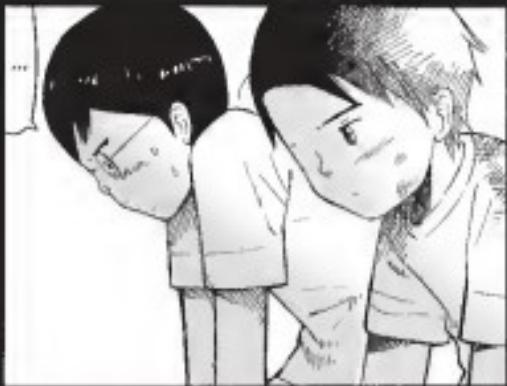


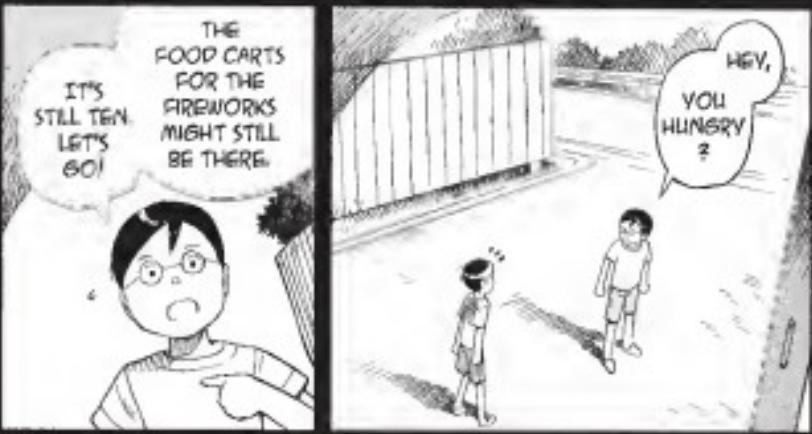


















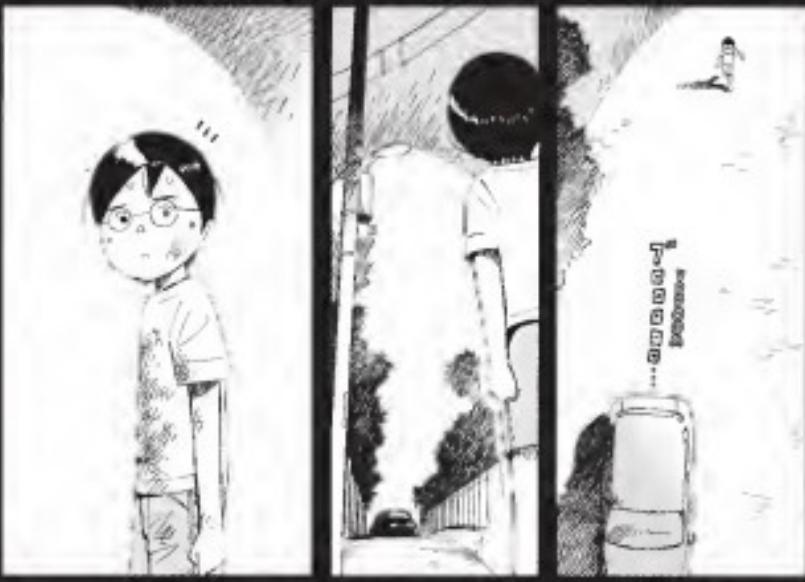






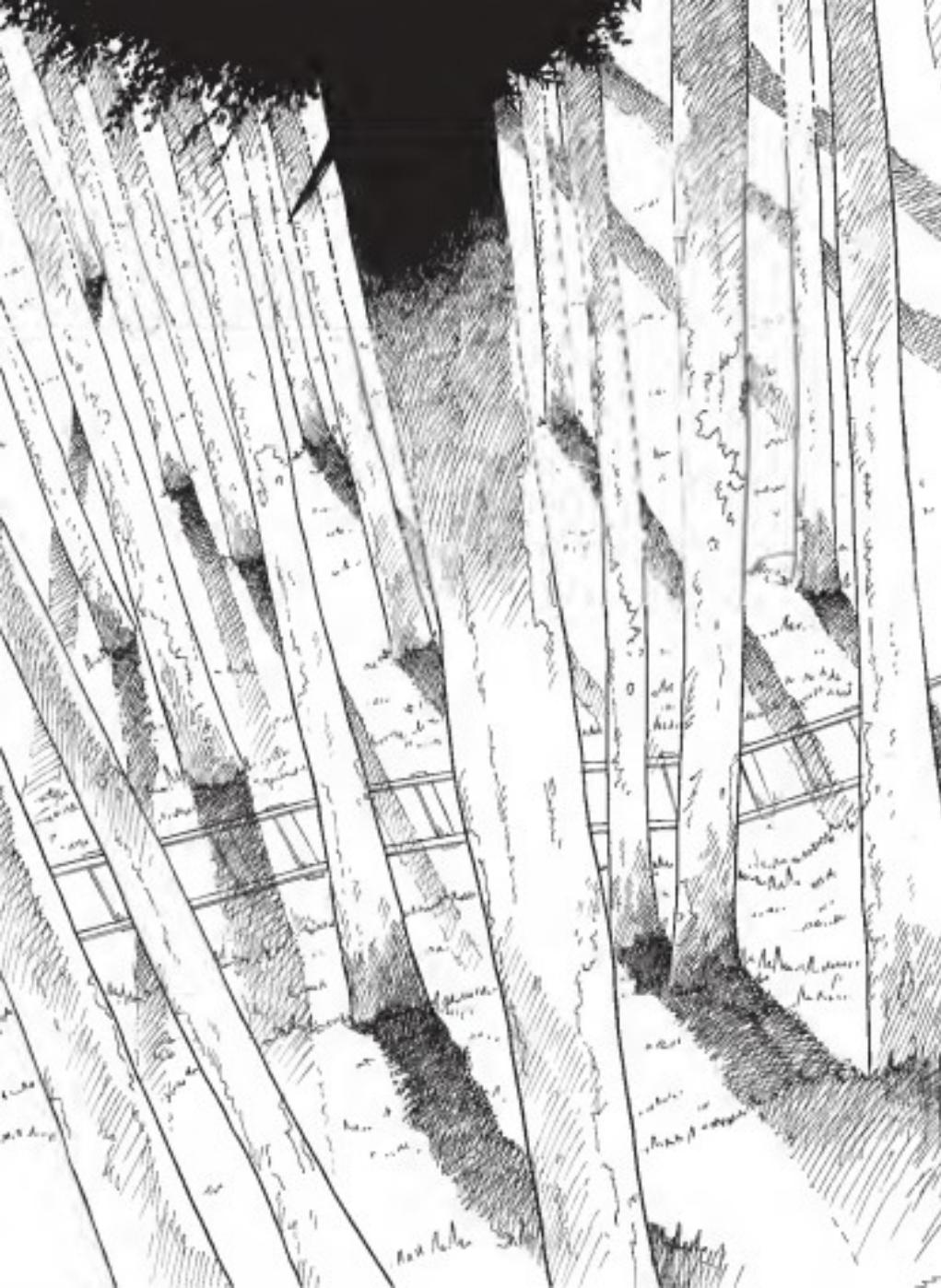


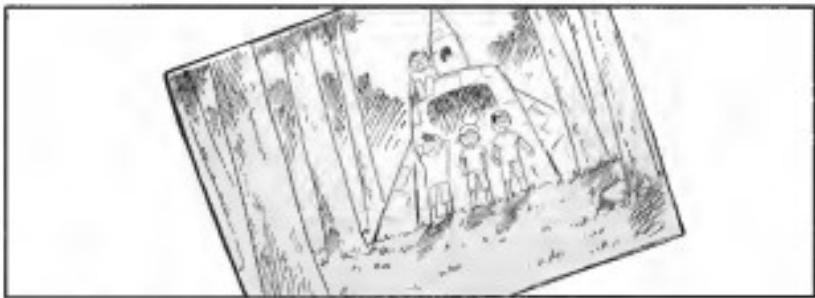












# MISSION:57







THAT THIS PLACE  
IS A FACILITY  
THAT'S DEVELOPING  
ROBOTS TO WORK  
ON SPACESHIPS.



THAT  
OBSE  
COACH  
TOLD US

APPARENTLY  
THE ROBOTS  
RUN ON  
HYDROGEN  
ENERGY  
CREATED FROM  
HYDROELECTRICITY  
FROM THE DAM.

SHOLOM

HE SAYS  
THERE'S  
A DAM  
NEAR  
HERE.

THE ROBOTS ARE  
POWERED BY  
CLEAN ENERGY  
AND ARE  
ENVIRONMENTALLY  
FRIENDLY.

THEY PRODUCE  
NO CO<sub>2</sub>.  
THEY DON'T  
NEED DIAPERS,  
SO TO  
SPEAK.



FROM THE OUTSIDE,  
YOU CAN'T TELL  
WHICH ONE OF  
US IS HUMAN.

IT'S LIKE  
THEY DID  
IT TO  
SPITE US.

I WON'T  
LOSE TO  
A ROBOT  
!!

FOR US,  
THOUGH,  
THAT  
WASN'T  
COOL.

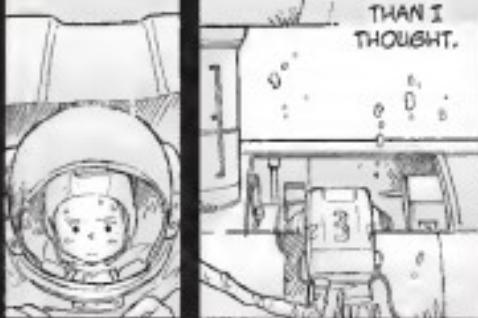
L...L...L...

SINCE THEY'RE STILL  
IN DEVELOPMENT,  
THEY PUT THEM  
IN SPACE SUITS.



BUT  
IN THE  
SECOND  
HALF...

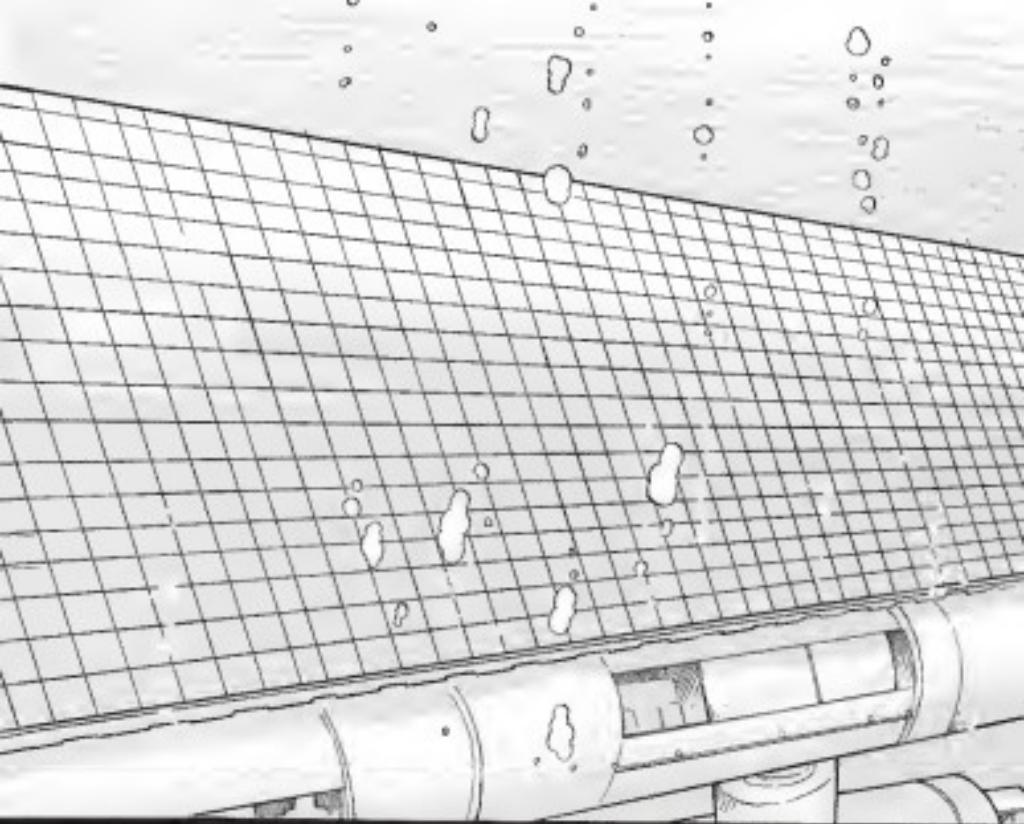
THE ROBOTS  
WERE A  
LOT LESS  
AGILE  
THAN I  
THOUGHT.

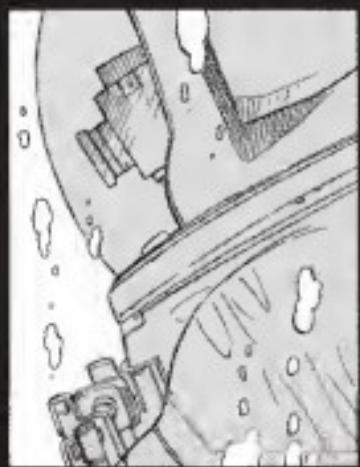
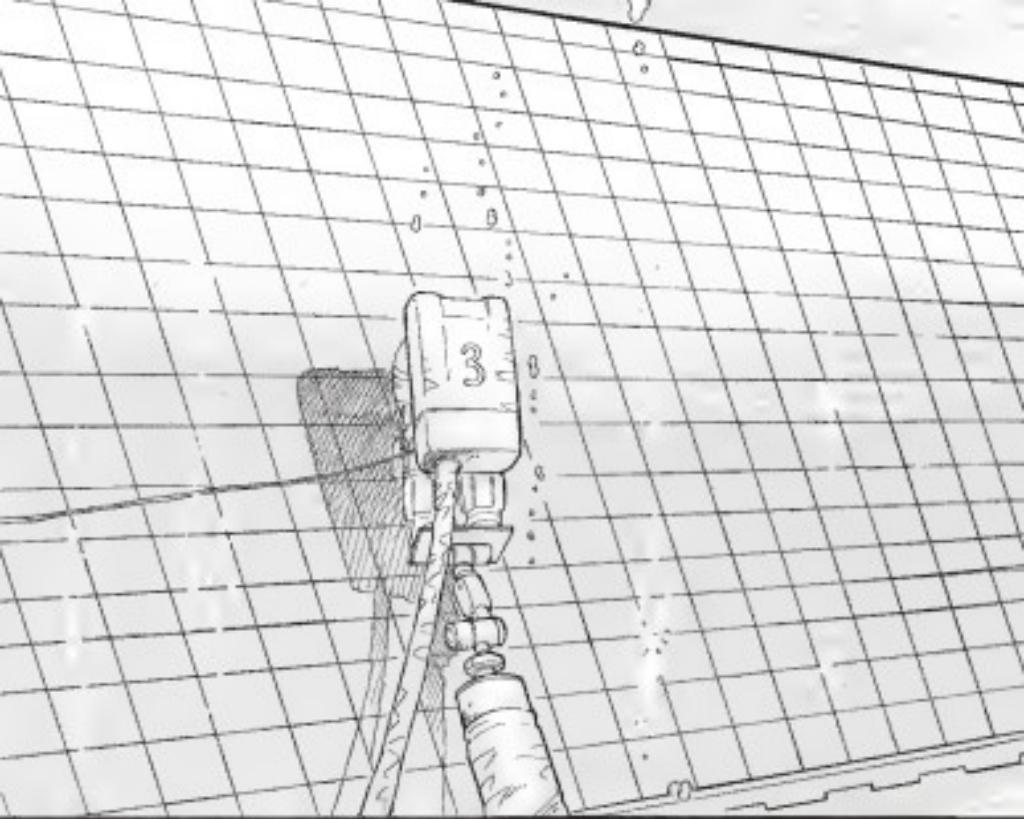


THERE WERE  
A LOT OF SMALL  
TASKS THAT  
NEEDED  
DEXTERITY.



WE DID  
WELL AT  
FIRST.







IT WAS EXHAUSTING, BOTH PHYSICALLY AND MENTALLY.



IT WAS SIMPLE, BUT TEDIOUS.



THE TABLES TURNED. THE TASK WAS TO INSPECT AND REPAIR SOLAR PANELS.



THE ROBOTS TASK SEEMED TO BE SIMPLE, AS THEY WENT ALONG.



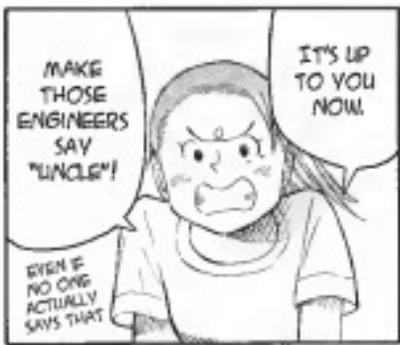
NEVER SHOWED SIGNS OF FAILING.



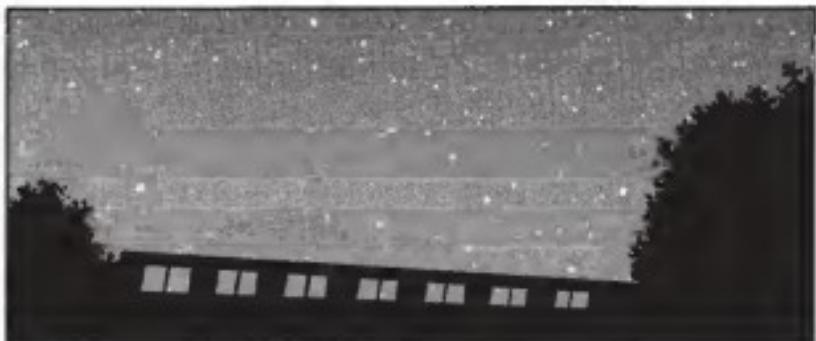
OF COURSE, THE ROBOTS...

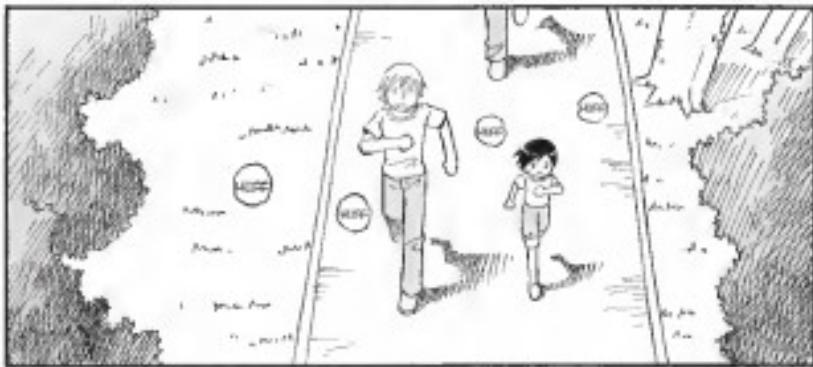
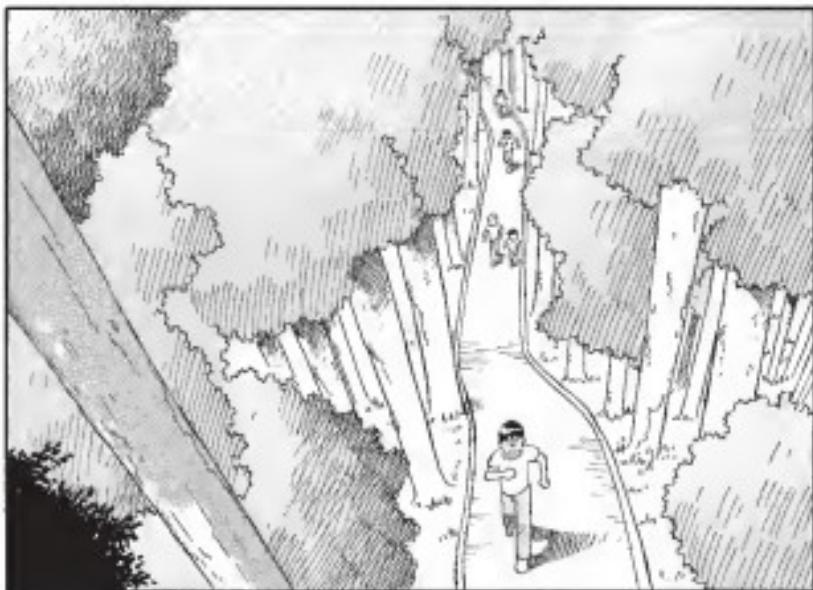






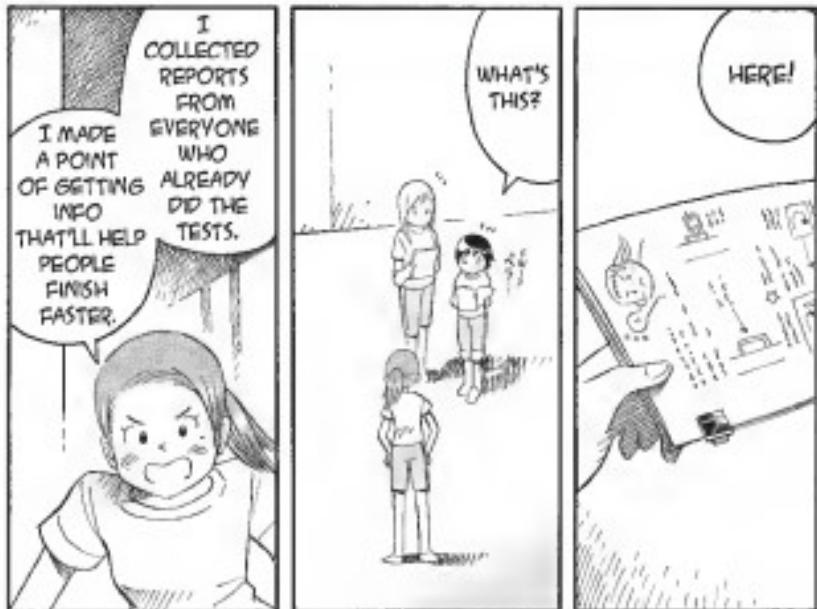






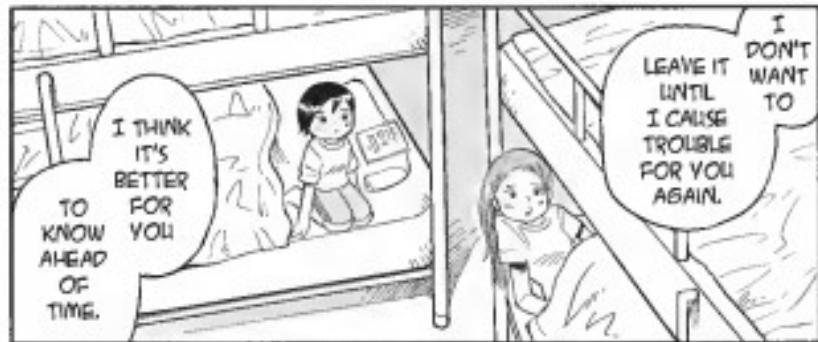




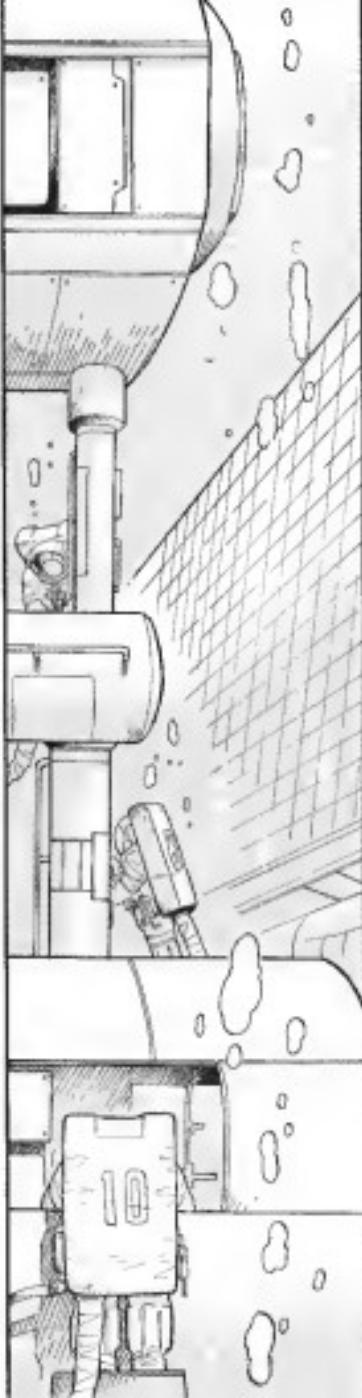
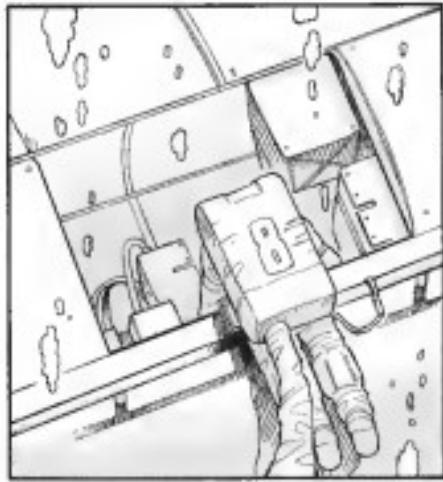
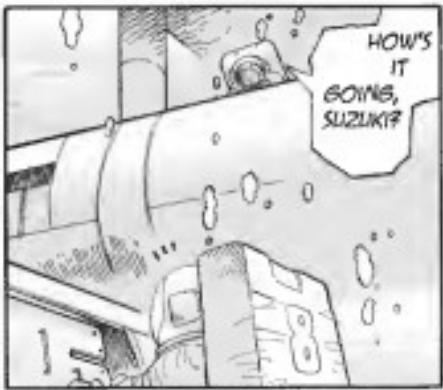


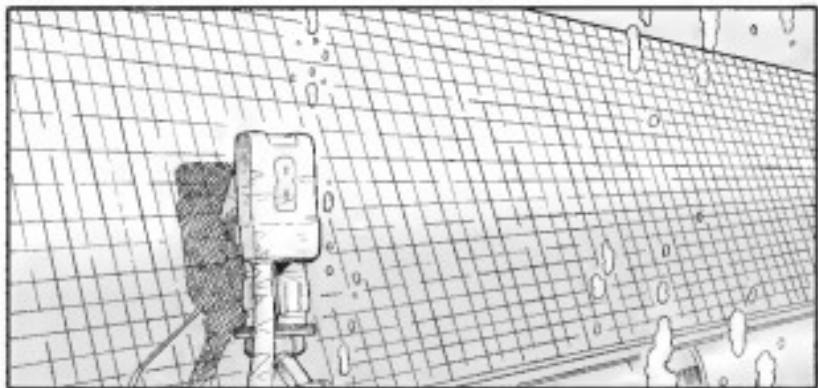


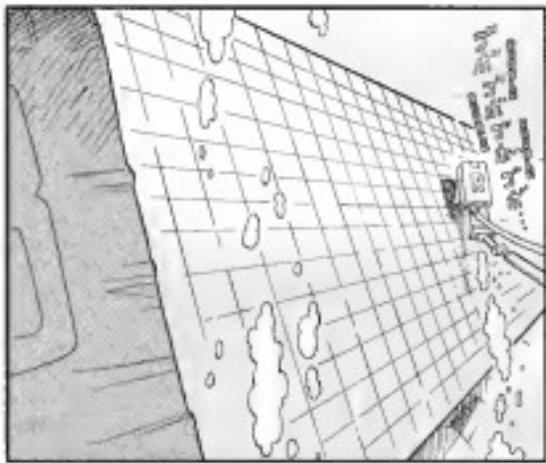




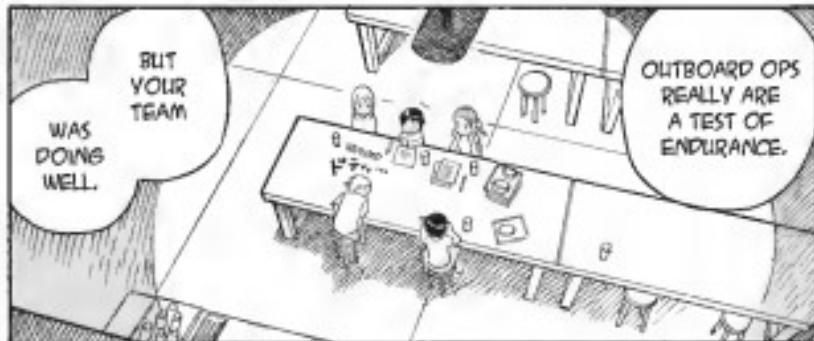


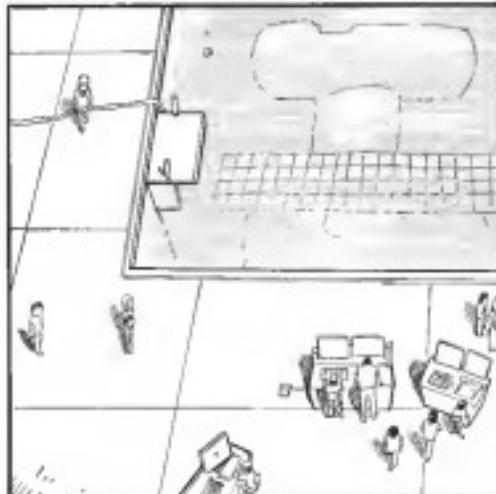
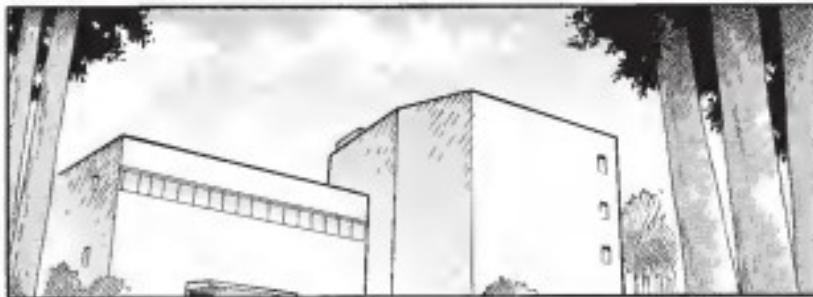




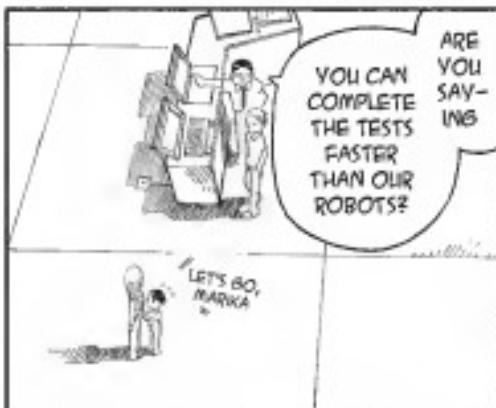
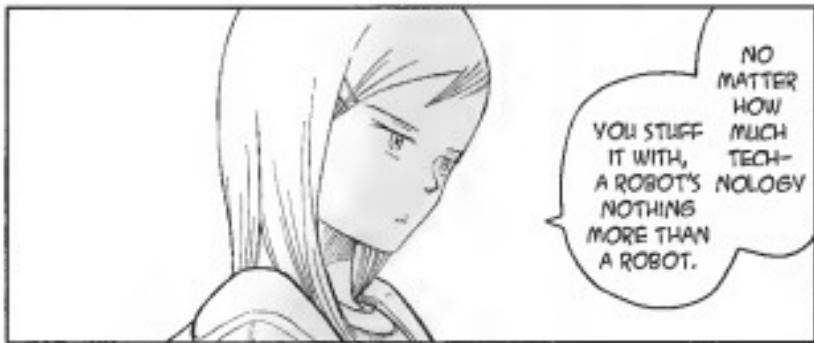








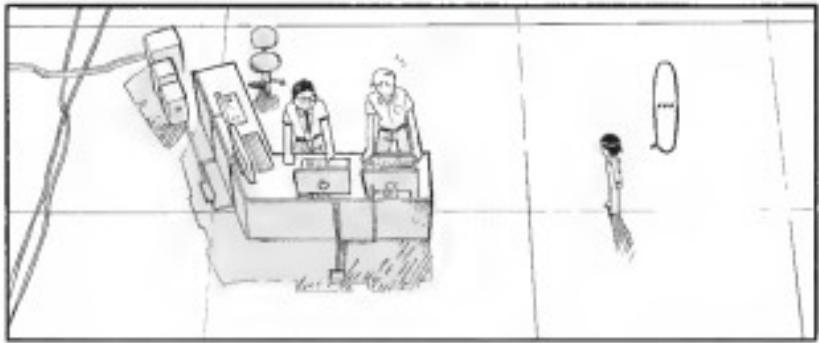








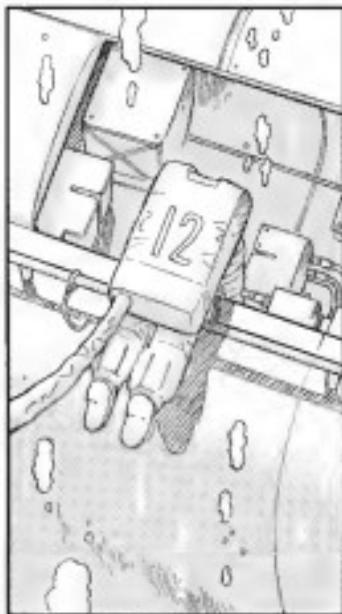
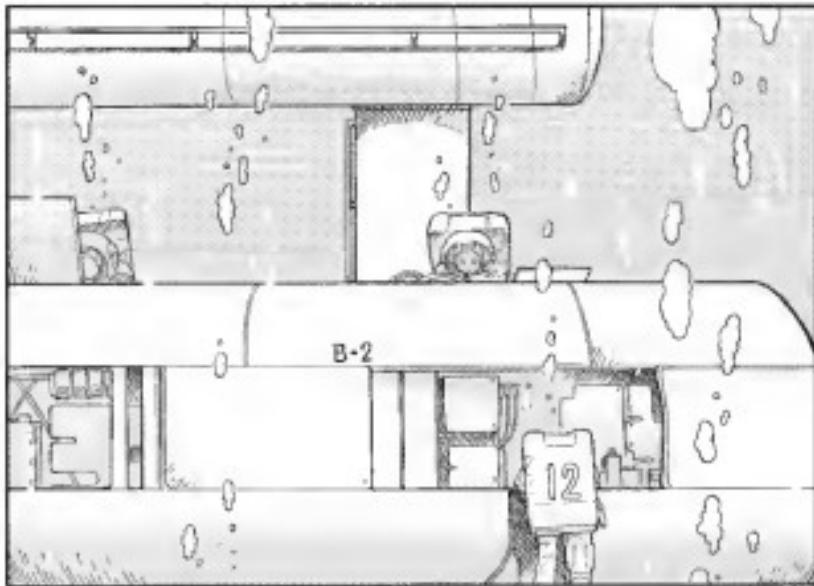


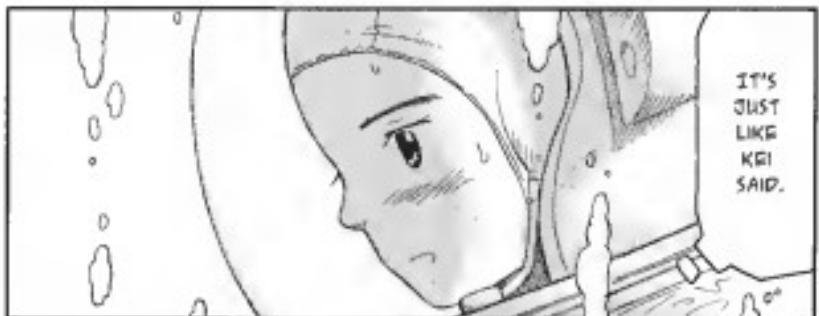
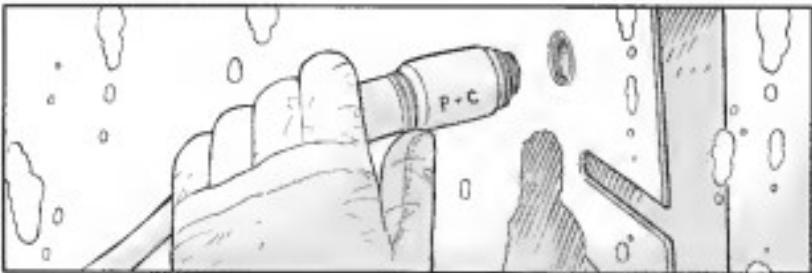


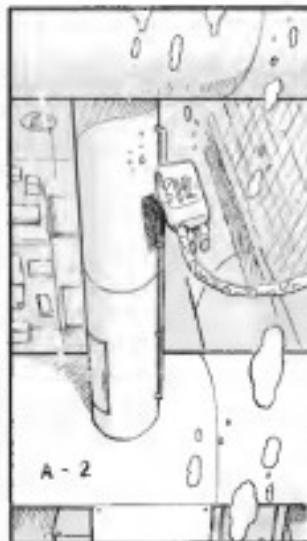
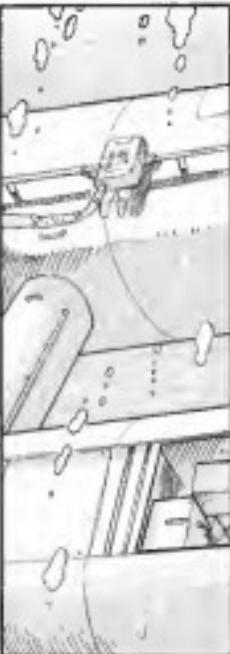


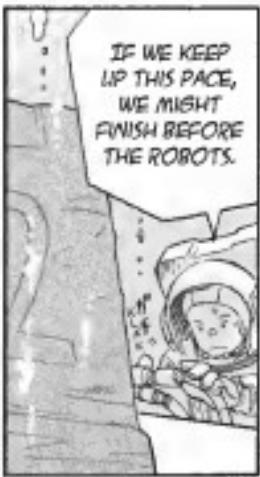
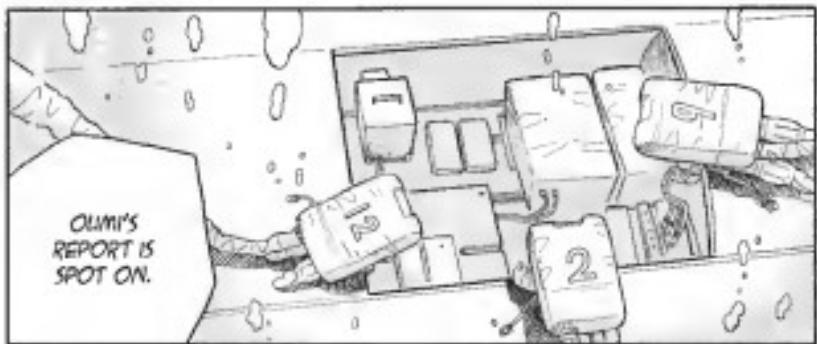
# MISSION:58

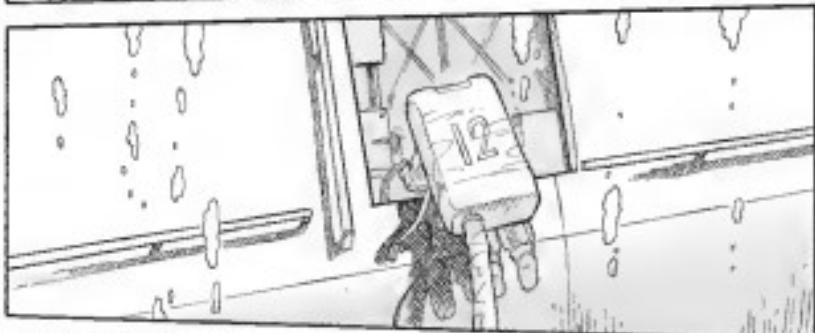


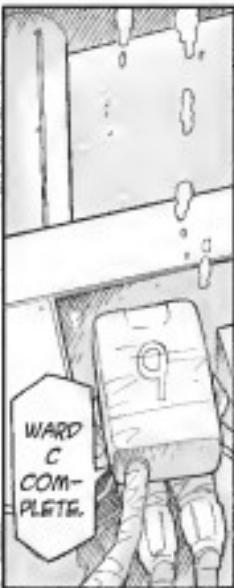






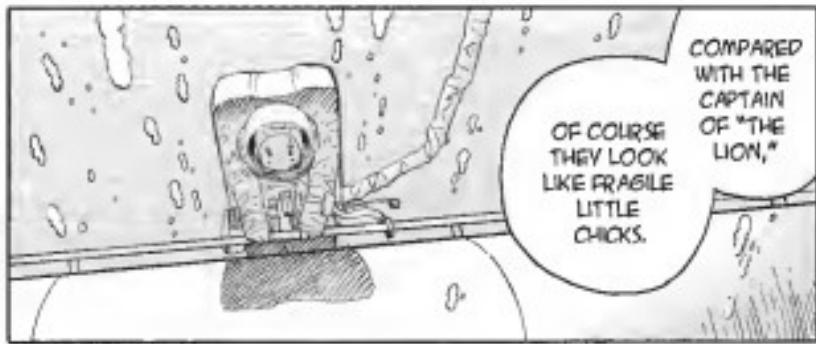


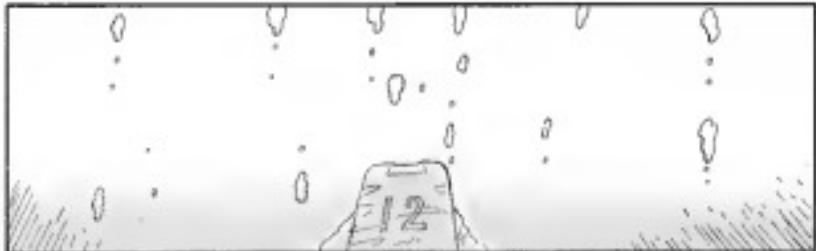


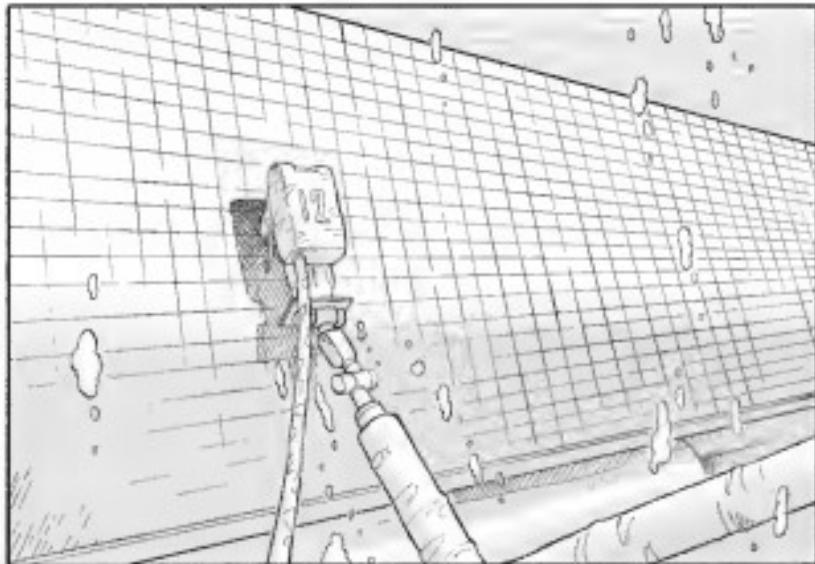


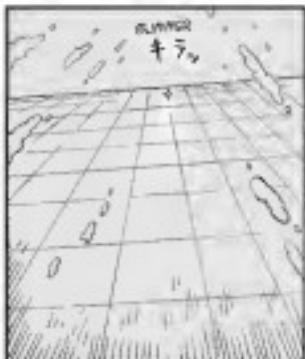
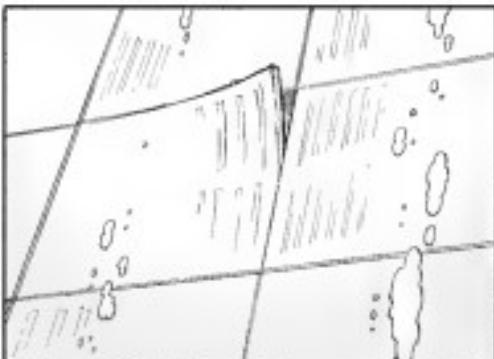


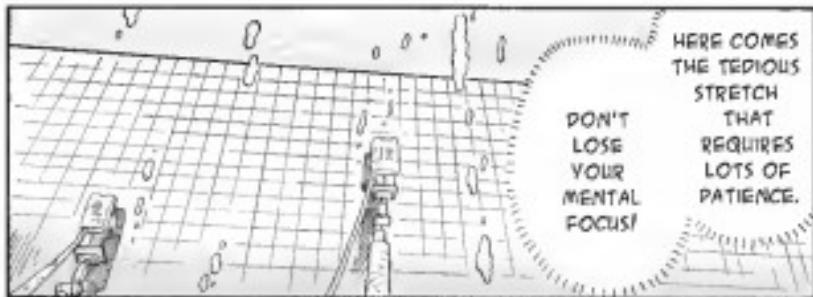


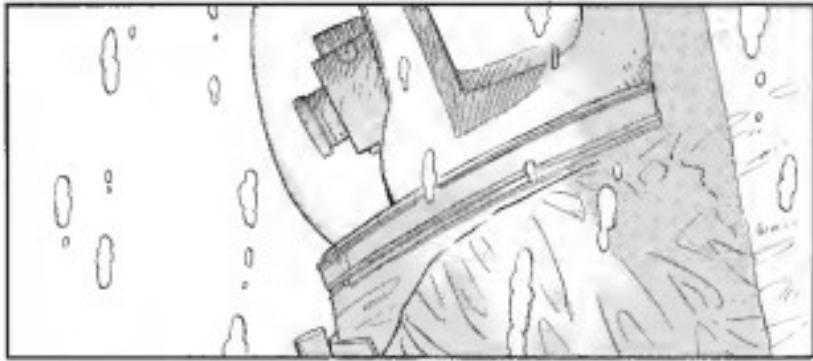
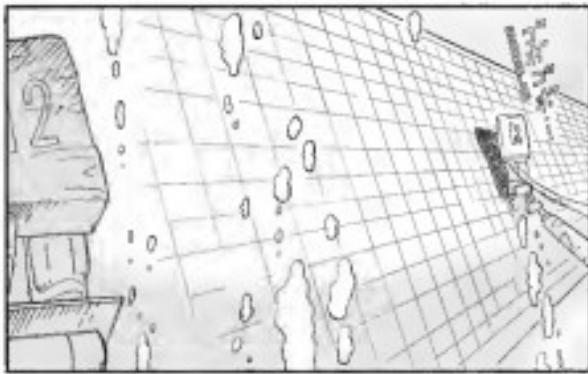


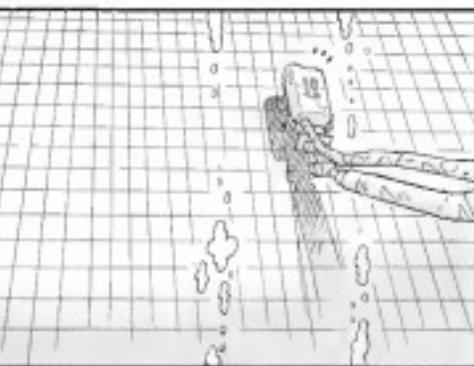
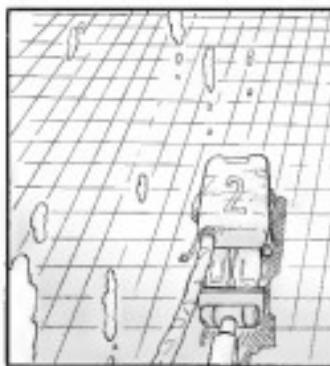


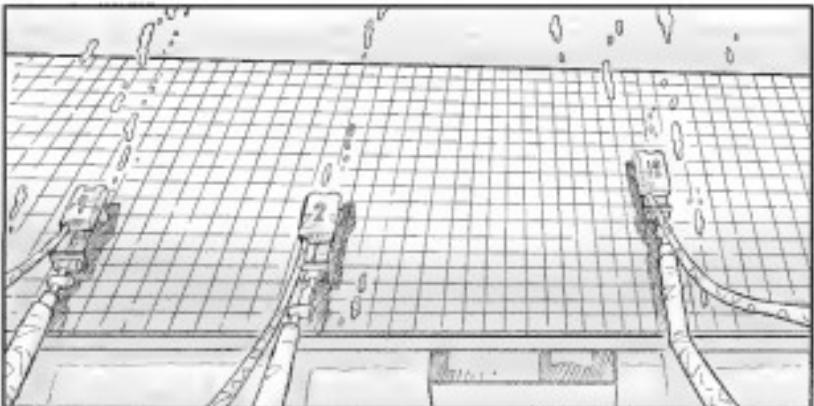






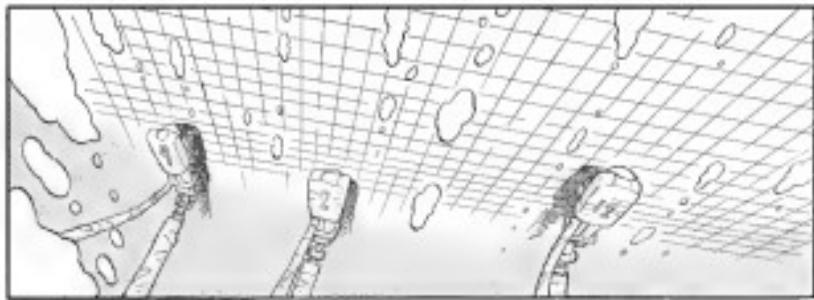


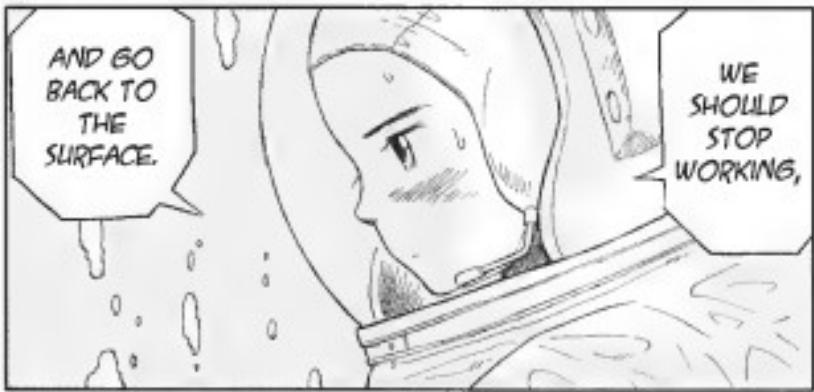
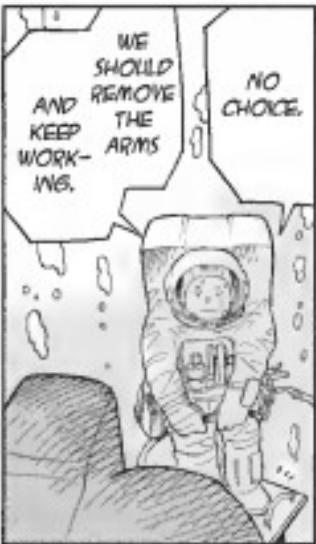


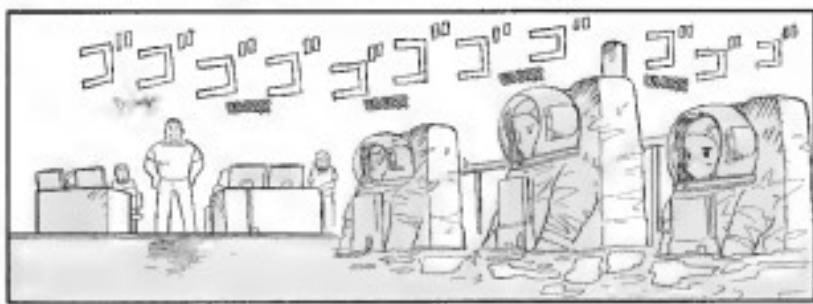


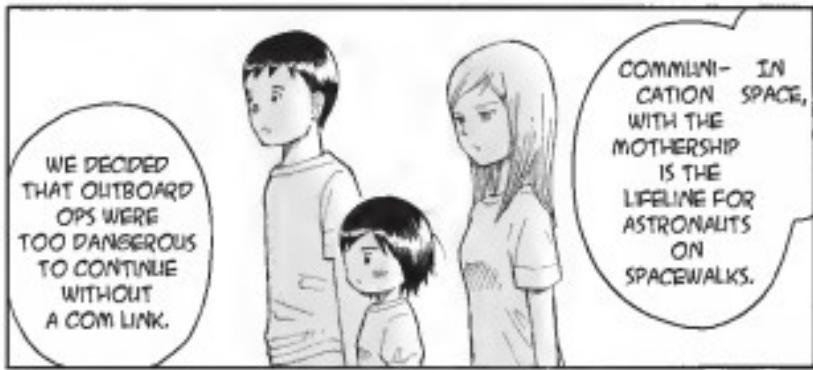


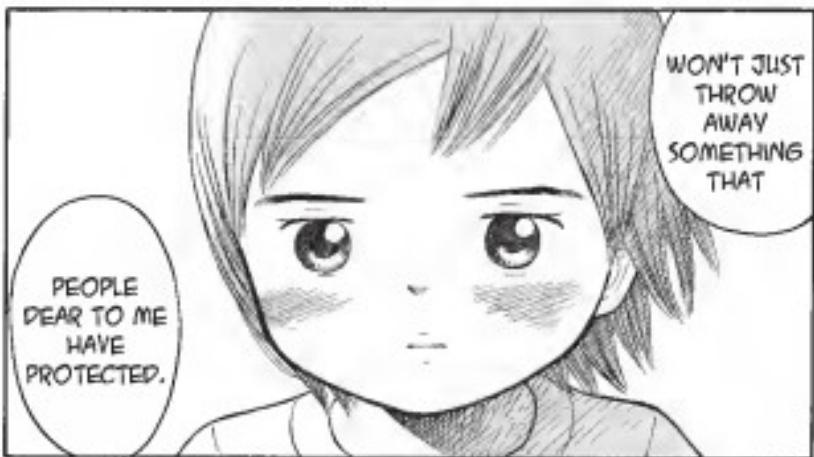


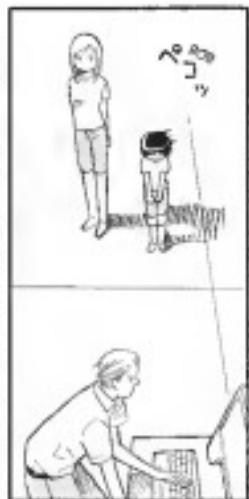






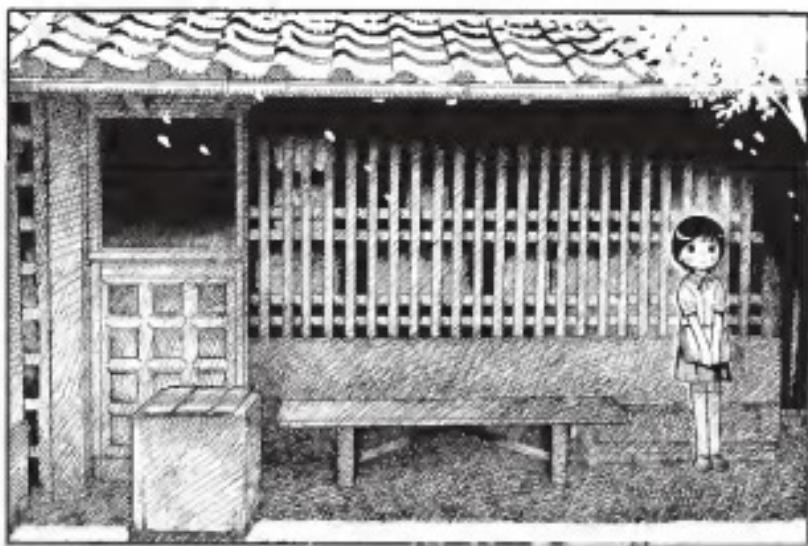








# ANOTHER SPICA



KOU YAGINUMA

and for winter only, corn soup for 200 yen.



The menu: freshly-squeezed orange juice for 360 yen, ham sandwiches,



I was still working at that theme park on Tokyo Bay.



Winter, many years ago.

WE'RE GETTING A TOUR GROUP.

MASUMIKA, CAN YOU MAKE EXTRA CORN SOUP?

SURE.

IT'S COLD.

nothing could increase traffic to our store.

We could try our cutest best, but ...

PLEASE COME TRY OUR YUMMY CORN SOUP!

FOUR MORE KILOS.

It was hard work.



We had to stir it for a long time to keep it from burning.

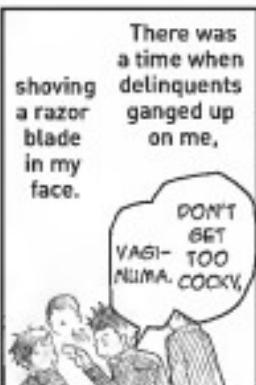
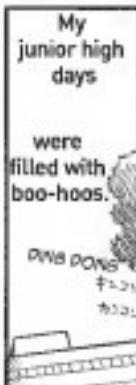
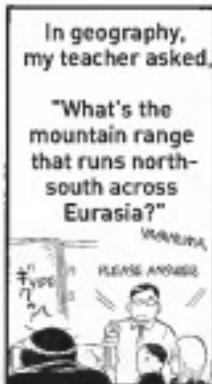
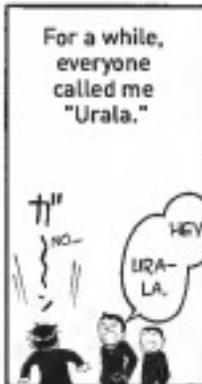


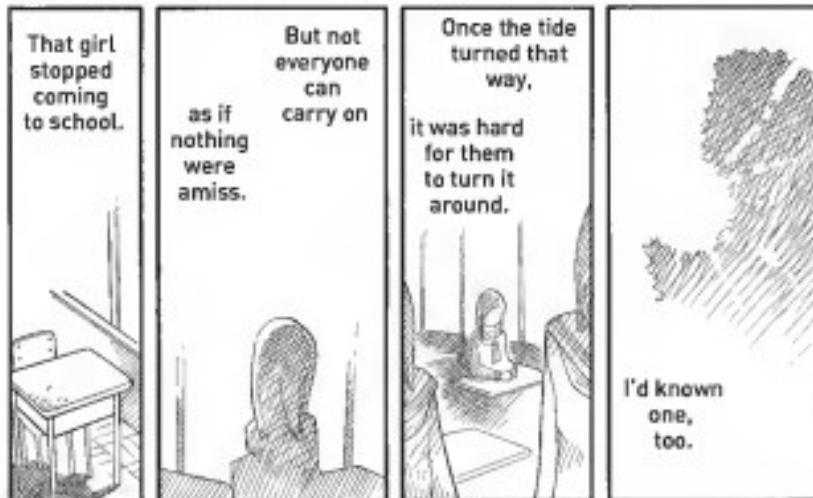
but the corn soup was properly prepared in a large vat.



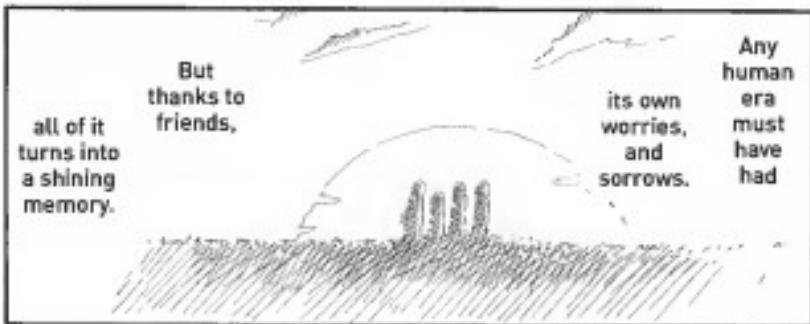
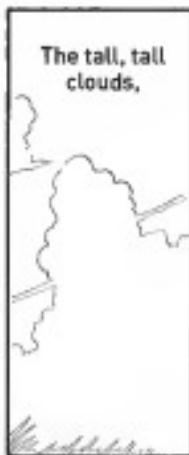
It didn't seem like anything nice.











## Notes on the Translation

P. 87

A "zaibatsu" is a conglomerate of firms owned by a family; the Mitsubishi Group is an example. After World War II, American occupation forces initially moved to disband zaibatsu for having wielded excessive influence. This policy, however, was reversed for anti-Communist reasons, in particular due to the Korean War, which rendered indispensable the logistical support that zaibatsu were capable of providing.



P. 110-112

Food stalls are a staple at traditional Japanese festivals, where "yaki-soba" and "takoyaki" are commonly on offer. The word "yaki" literally means *burn*, and in the context of food, *fry/cook*. Thus "yakisoba" are fried soba noodles, while "takoyaki" are balls of flour with a piece of octopus ("tako") at the center. The recipe for the enticing "Yuiyahama-yaki," on the other hand, is a mystery. There does exist a Yuiyahama (written with different characters) in the area of Japan where the fictional town also seems to be located, namely Kamakura. The historically important region boasts as many "specialty" foods and snacks as it does significant architecture. The real-life version of "Yuiyahama-yaki," if there is any, is therefore hard to pin down.



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